COVID-19 Update
August 4, 2020 16:30

The Pincher Creek Regional Emergency Management Organization (PCREMO) continues to actively monitor the COVID-19 pandemic. Future updates from PCREMO will be communicated when any significant changes occur regarding the pandemic, for example, a significant increase in numbers or changes in government actions.

Please ensure you are receiving your information from trusted sources. For the latest news for Albertans on COVID-19, including updates on government actions, visit alberta.ca/covid19

The Pincher Creek region has moved its regional destination to "open" with our confirmed active cases of COVID-19 dropping to 7. To view the interactive map of regional classifications, and statistics visit https://www.alberta.ca/stats/covid-19-alberta-statistics.htm

While this may be a reason to celebrate as a community on our efforts to lower our numbers of confirmed active COVID-19 numbers, it does not mean it is a time to relax what we are doing. Please do your part to stop the spread by following all the guidelines of Alberta Health Services.

Albertans are encouraged to wear non-medical masks in public when it's difficult to maintain physical distancing of 2 metres at all times. Wearing a homemade or non-medical mask in public is another tool to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. It hasn't been proven that masks protect the person wearing it, but it can help protect people from being exposed to your germs.

Masks should complement – not replace – other prevention measures. Continue physical distancing and good hand hygiene, and stay home when sick.

When to use a mask:

- When it's difficult to maintain 2 metres distance from people for a prolonged period of time:
    o public transit and airplanes
    o grocery stores and pharmacies
    o hair salons and barbershops
    o some retail stores
    o as part of the school re-entry plan, school health measures now include mandatory masks

When not to use a mask:

- If it's dirty or damaged in any way
- If it gaps or doesn't fit well
- If it's been used by another person
- Children under 2 years of age
- Anyone that has trouble breathing
- When you are only with people from your own household

We have become aware of an increasing amount of stigma related to COVID-19 infections in our community. We wish to remind our residents that stigmatization can be harmful. According to Alberta Health Services, stigma can cause individuals to hide their illness, which can undermine testing and treatment efforts. Furthermore, stigmatized individuals may also face social avoidance or rejection, and experience physical violence. Above all, please show kindness to your neighbor. People who have contracted the COVID-19 virus did not do so with intent and they need our compassion and support at this time.

If you feel a group or business is not abiding by the current rules or you believe someone is not self-isolating when required to do so, you can submit a complaint to AHS, and a public health inspector will look into it. Please call 1-833-415-9179 or visit this site to submit a complaint: https://ephisahs.microsoftcrmportals.com/create-case